Dear Secretary Geithner,

As you know, I believe this great nation must set our priorities based on our values. In my eyes, the highest priority should be the seniors who belong to the greatest generation. We must make it clear that for those seniors, Social Security is a promise they can count on.

If the worst happens, and Washington fails to do what is right and come to an agreement on the debt ceiling, families should not pay the price. I strongly urge you to make sure that this country keeps its trust with Social Security recipients and continues to send Social Security checks.

I came to Washington to fix things and do what is right for the next generation, not the next election. I truly believe we must work together to resolve this debt crisis, not engage in scare tactics to score political points. It is not only wrong, it is unacceptable that politicians would use threats to scare our seniors.

Looking forward, I will continue to work hard every day with Republicans and Democrats to come to a commonsense solution on our debt crisis – one that gets spending under control and is based on tax fairness.

This is a great nation, one that all of us are lucky to be a part of. I hope and believe that we can live up to the greatness of the American people and reaches a responsible deal that is right for West Virginia, the nation and the next generation.

With warmest regards,

Senator Joe Manchin III